

# Seghill First School Newsletter December 2022 edition 1

## Attendance target 96.3%

Whole school attendance since 07 September 2022	92.1%
Whole school attendance this week	84.8%
84.6%	88.0%
94.5%	77.6%
88.4%	84.8%

Class of the week for this week is **Red class**. **Well done Red class**. You now have the attendance octopus and you all had a dip in the sweet box this morning.

Our first winner for a **dip in the attendance prize box** as a reward for having 100% attendance and no late marks for the week was Brodie.

## Star of the week

Our stars of the week are-

- **Mrs Lyons** Henry;
- **Miss Winter & Mrs Watson** Orla;
- **Mrs Bell** Katie;
- **Miss Neal** James;
- **Miss Porter** Caleb;
- **Mrs Askew** Jaxson;
- **Miss Chappell** Freya S;
- **Staff star** Mrs Lyons.



## Birthdays

We've had no birthdays this week. Please check back next week to see who our birthday boys and girls are.



## Christmas events, activities and deadlines

A summary of the events, activities and deadlines is below-

Santa's reading challenge starts	Monday 05 December
Workshop for Yellow and Orange class parents	Wednesday 07 December
Children's first names and surname initial for your child's class sent home	By Friday 16 December
Return raffle tickets to school	By Friday 16 December
Christmas fayre	Friday 16 December at 3:15pm
Deadline for ordering and paying for concert tickets	Friday 16 December
Deadline for ordering and paying for movie tickets	Friday 16 December
Deadline for ordering and paying for Christmas treats	Friday 16 December
Post box opens	Monday 19 December
Yellow and Orange class concert	Monday 19 December at 9:00am
Red, Green, Purple and Blue class concert	Monday 19 December at 2:30pm
Red, Green, Purple and Blue class concert	Tuesday 20 December at 9:00am
Red and Green class party	Tuesday 20 December
Orange and Yellow class party	Wednesday 21 December
Deadline for ordering and paying for spring term milk	Wednesday 21 December
Christmas lunch	Wednesday 21 December
Movie night for Years 1 to 4	Wednesday 21 December 3:15pm to 5:15pm
Purple and Blue class party	Thursday 22 December
Christmas treat for Years 1 to 4	Thursday 22 December
Celebration assembly	Friday 23 December at 9:00am

### Spring term milk

Spring term milk letters were sent home last week. The deadline for consent, and payment if required, is **Wednesday 21 December** on School Gateway. We have to order milk from the dairy by this deadline with our order for the first week of the spring term.

Once that order is made, it cannot be changed until the summer term. We cannot continue to add names to the milk list throughout the spring term.

### School streets

In addition to the new **bollards** which have been put up outside our school on Cheviot View, I am delighted to announce that both **Cheviot View and Parker Place** are going to become **School Streets**. This means that when the scheme is launched, there will be **no access to Cheviot View or Parker Place to any school traffic at either dropping off time or collection time. Parents and carers will not be able to drive up or down Cheviot View or Parker Place and they will not be able to park in either of these streets either.**

I do not have the exact start date of the scheme, but please be aware that this scheme will be starting soon.

### Being safe online



In assembly last week we were talking about **being safe online**. We know that at this time of year, children may ask for games or for a telephone, laptop, PC or tablet for Christmas. It is hard for parents and carers to know all of the rules and not to bow to peer pressure about what

children should and should not be doing and viewing. To have an account for Tik Tok, Instagram, Snapchat or Facebook, you must be at least **13 years old**. Children should not be using an account which belongs to an adult or an older child to access these platforms.

We are all familiar with film age ratings to help us to choose films which are appropriate for our children to watch. In the same way, computer games have **Pegi age ratings**. Pegi age ratings ensure that entertainment content, such as films, DVDs, and games, is clearly labelled for the minimum age group for which it is suitable. Age ratings provide guidance to consumers to help them decide whether or not to buy a particular product. Since 2012, PEGI has been the sole system used in the UK for new console and PC games.

#### TWO LEVELS OF INFORMATION AS A GUIDE : THE PEGI AGE LABELS



#### THE CONTENT DESCRIPTORS



If you are unsure about whether a game is suitable for your child, please check the Pegi rating.

### All after school clubs cancelled on Tuesday 13 December

All staff must attend **Child Protection training** on **Tuesday 13 December** with our governors straight after school. There will be no after school club and no singing club on Tuesday 13 December. An extra session of singing has been booked for Tuesday 20 December. We have written to all families who attend singing club and who are regular users of the after school club to let them know.

### Raffle tickets

Thank you to those of you who have returned your raffle tickets and money so far. If you would like any extra raffle tickets, please see **Mrs Elliott** in the school office, and she will get them for you.

### Countdown to Santa's Reading Challenge

Santa's reading challenge starts on Monday. The letter is on page 5. It is important that children continue to read in the run up to Christmas as part of their normal routine, as this maintains fluency and interest in books. We know it can be difficult to fit everything in at this time of year, but hopefully, the "little and often" approach is more manageable than reading lots of pages once a week.

### Workshop for Yellow and Orange class parents

Staff in Early Years have organised a **workshop for parents and carers of children in Yellow and Orange class** to take place on **Wednesday 07 December**. You are invited to stay when you drop your child off in the morning. You will have the chance to see our morning routines and watch your child take part in activities across the different areas of learning within Early Years.

### Attendance monitoring

Earlier this week we have sent out **attendance letters** to all children where attendance is **less than 90%**. When attendance falls below 90%, a child is then defined as a **persistent absentee**.

I appreciate that there may be very valid reasons for a child's absence. I know that very few parents fail to support their child by securing good attendance. However, we must write to all parents and carers when their child's attendance falls below 90%.

Our daily attendance figures are monitored by the Department for Education (DfE). This is the case for all schools. Poor attendance has a negative impact on academic and social progress at school. If you are worried about your child's attendance or if there is a medical reason that is impacting on your child's attendance, please let us know.

### Reminder about reading and homework

We are still really struggling with **children not bringing the right things to school each day**. In Year 3 this morning, only 10 out of the 16 children present had completed and returned their spellings and only 9 out of 16 had completed and returned their homework.

I am certainly not picking on Year 3, but as I completed their registration this morning, I saw this first hand. I was really saddened by how few children had completed and returned the tasks that they were given last Friday. Speaking to staff in all year groups, the situation is the same in almost every class.

We know that everyone is busy and it can be hard to manage everything. However, it is **adding a significant amount to our workload every day** when we are chasing after reading books, spelling books and homework books that are not at school on time.

When children don't have their reading book in school every day we can't listen to them read. Missing spelling books mean that spellings are not written in the book for their test and new spellings are sent home on slips of paper and inevitably being lost. New homework sheets cannot be stuck in when the book is at home.

**Reading books and reading records should be brought to school every day.**

**Spellings should be practised twice in the spelling book and returned to school by Wednesday every week.**

**Homework should be completed in the homework book and returned to school, by Wednesday every week.**

We would really appreciate your help so children have the right things in school on the right days. Even though we are approaching Christmas, our expectations are still the same.

### Pupil voice

Following on from the information we shared in last week's newsletter about pupil voice, here are some of the initiatives that the children have asked for that are now in place.

### Star of the week

Children will continue to get a certificate and have their photograph taken and displayed on the star of the week board. In addition to this, all stars of the week will have a **dip in the star of the week prize box** as a reward for being picked as star of the week.



### Weekly 100% attendance with no late marks

Children will continue to have their name put in the hat each week if they have 100% attendance and no late marks for that week. At the end of each half term, one name will be pulled out the hat (see below). In addition to this, we will pull one name out the hat each week, and the winner will have a **dip in the attendance prize box** as a reward for having 100% attendance and no late marks for the week.



### Half termly 100% attendance with no late marks

In addition to the arrangements for the weekly prize, all names with 100% attendance and no late marks from each week are put in the hat and a name is drawn out during celebration assembly at the end of each half term. We will now give out **£10 cinema vouchers, book vouchers or Argos vouchers**.

### Weekly class with the best attendance award

The class with the best attendance each week gets the **attendance octopus** in their classroom. In addition to this, we have agreed that all of the children in the best class for that week can have a **dip in the sweet box**.

### Half termly class with the best attendance award

The class with the best attendance at the end of each half term currently gets an **extra afternoon of Golden Time**. Children have asked us to add in the extra options of **sketching, colouring in or watching a movie**.

### Termly class of the term

The class with the best attendance at the end of each term currently gets to wear **non-uniform on the last day of term**. Children have asked us to add in the extra options of getting some **sweets, watching a movie and having popcorn and pop**.

### Behaviour policy

We are going to review our **behaviour policy**. This is part of an ongoing cycle of policy review. We will be writing to you to share our draft updated policy and asking for your feedback after Christmas. We will also be asking the children about the current system of rewards and sanctions to find their views about what is working well and what they think needs to improve. Your views, and the views of the children, will form part of the review process.

### Yellow and class Christmas treat trip to Seven Stories

Children in **Nursery and Reception** went to Seven Stories yesterday to see 'Naughty or Nice? The Missing Lists'. The children all had an amazing time and really loved the show. What an amazing experience to go to Seven Stories and see a show without any cost to parents and carers. Staff in Early Years have uploaded photos onto Tapestry and onto our school Facebook page.



## Santa's 2022 Christmas reading challenge

Can you meet Santa's challenge of reading 10 times in 10 school days before Christmas?

What you need to do-

Read your school reading book at home to an adult every night.

Ask your adult to date and sign your reading record every time you read.

We will give you one point for every time you read at home.

Santa will be checking the reading records on Monday 19th December.

Santa will ask Mrs Watson to give out special Christmas treats before the end of term, to all children who have 10 points or more.

The challenge will start on Monday 5th December. We are giving everybody one point to start off with. Are you ready for Santa's Reading Challenge?